

FRENCH ARMY AGAIN HANDS FAMOUS FORT NEAR VERDUN

Douaumont Once More Entirely In Gallio Hands, Save For Small Northern Sector To Which Teutons Cling Desperately

DOUAUMONT VILLAGE ALSO HELD BY GENERAL PETAIN

Counter-Attacks Follow German Gas Assaults On Positions Near Le Mort Homme, and Succeed In Ousting Invaders

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) PARIS, May 25.—After almost four months of constant fighting the French troops under General Petain, appear to have assumed the offensive at Verdun, and to be slowly wresting from the Germans, under the Crown Prince, land and positions won in the first three days of the Verdun battle.

These gains, practically admitted by the German official despatches, are increasing in importance as the attacks under the direction of General Petain move forward, seizing first one and another of the positions the Germans have held for months.

Douaumont fort, formerly regarded as one of the master keys to the door of Verdun, and the point around which so much bloody fighting has raged since it was stormed by the Crown Prince February 25, is now again in French hands, save for a minute section at the most northern end, where the Germans are clinging desperately to their last fragment of foot hold.

French Hold Village
Douaumont village, where the armies have attacked and repulsed each other for so long, is also in French hands once more, and the French are debouching from its shell shattered streets against the German positions north of Thiaumont.

The official statement issued late last night, and based upon reports from the battle field headquarters, says that the French are consolidating their gains and are holding tenaciously to all the ground won, despite counter attacks made by the Germans.

In the struggle around Douaumont, which the communiqué calls "most murderous," huge masses of Teutonic troops have been used to counter-attack the victory. This appears to have cost the Kaiser's commanders dear, for, according to the reports, the seventy-fives of the French artillery, have "mowed long lanes in the ranks of the enemy," and inflicted "sanguinary losses upon them."

German Losses Heavy
West of Le Mort Homme, on the western side of the river Meuse, the fighting was resumed with all its former fury yesterday morning, shortly after sun rise. The weather was clear, and the artillery observers on both sides were able to mark the exact fall of the shells. As a result of this the attacks of the Teutonic infantry, which had been preceded by prolonged artillery bombardment succeeded, at first, in gaining a foothold in some of the advanced French trenches on the western slopes of the historic hill.

Hardly had the French foot cleared the trenches, however, when the French artillery took for its target the positions which but a few moments before had sheltered its own men. Men who watched the bombardment of these guns, say that the effect was terrific. The Germans holding the captured trenches were literally blasted to shinders by the rain of high explosives, showered upon them, and when the French infantry counter-attacked came shortly after, but little was left of the trenches and less of the forgers who had entered them.

Gas Attacks Fail
At Hill 304, another point in the main line of the French defensive chain facing around Verdun at the time General Sarrail, then in command of the fortress, dismantled his forts and moved his heavy cannon into the fields north of the city, the Germans attempted to gain ground by a poison gas attack. In this they failed, say the French accounts of the action as they followed the gas cloud the German infantry was met with a heavy fire by machine guns, seventy-fives and the rifles of the men in the trenches, and the attack broke down before it reached the most advanced positions on the Gallie line.

Berlin says nothing of the failure of that attack, but reports that French attempts in the same sector, and on the eastern slopes of the hill also broke down after severe punishment had been inflicted upon the attackers.

The rest of the French theater of war appears to have been fairly quiet with but little to break the deadly "hibernation" of trench warfare. Upon the eastern front, where the Germans and the Russians are facing each other, the spring fighting is growing in volume. In the region of the Pripiet river positions the Russians yesterday reported that they have repulsed repeated Teutonic attacks. The Russians report having occupied Serbecht.

In the Asia Minor fighting the Slavs continue their strides west, and south, driving the Turks before them. They

VERDUN IN HEART OF AN INFERNO

Maurice Barres of the French Academy writes as follows after a visit to Verdun:

"I have just returned to Paris from Verdun. Verdun is at the present moment the center of the universe. The eyes of all nations are turned toward this ancient little town, whose streets we have just passed through, ruined, smoking, deserted streets, and toward the hills which anyone seemed so solitary as since two million men, by pouring in their bloodstained furrows, have been striving to tear each other to pieces."

"There are no more civilians in Verdun and every one knows that the soldiers are busy elsewhere. I have walked around in the solitude, in the deserted streets, and have seen carefully swept of the rubbish that shell explosions had heaped upon them. I have felt the tragic effect of seeing houses collapsing in wreckage and tottering into the Meuse, Quarters of Town Lemaire

"Here and there quarters of the town survive, with doors open and shutters flapping. I have gone to the city hall and the cathedral, and have climbed up to the bishop's palace and traversed its halls and little cloister. It would serve no purpose to let the barbarians know how well or ill their aim was carried. What can be said is that the bishops of old and Vanbaun alone built to defy any test, for their double fortifications remains intact."

"Along Meuse street (the leading street of the city) bombs and shells have laid bare ancient ramparts which preceded Vanbaun's undoubtedly dating from the time of the bishops which were the foundation of the houses which have recently fallen in wrecks and of which I had never suspected the existence."

"A little eight-year-old girl had asked me if I went to Verdun to go to see if her toys were broken. I found the little orphan's house. The door was open, the windows closed, the household furniture intact, as if the house were awaiting the return of those who will never come back again."

"I opened the cupboard, where the dolls slept quietly. How long will this home, almost the only one in the midst of ruins, remain upright? Perhaps while I write the incendiary bomb is rushing on it through the great blue sky."

"The boches have many a useless thing to do in Verdun!"

"What advantage is it to them to force thousands of good, unoffending people to abandon their homes and leave everything to the defense? A Danish journalist after visiting Verdun wrote: 'The sole advantage gained by the Germans through their advance is that the city is now under range of their cannon. The unfortunate city receives 300 to 400 shells a day. I believe this figure is greatly exaggerated, of which a large number are incendiary. Having lost all hope of taking the city, the Germans evidently intend to destroy it as far as possible. Verdun produces the effect of a dead city, but as soldiers say, what does that matter, provided they do not come off! And that will never come to pass!'"

Defenses In Solid Block
"As we passed through the long, never ending galleries of the fortress of Verdun, cut right into the soil rock, placed over one another, connected by staircases, lit by electricity, which made more like the tunnels of the Paris subway than anything else, we followed rails on which ran little wagons transporting supplies of all kinds, and then we visited sleeping galleries and office galleries, where officers could telephone and telegraph. At last, having visited the immense workshops of this underground city, well heated, well lighted and ventilated, a toiling and silent hive, we reached the dining gallery, where like the cross of a capital T, a table of honor was placed at the head of the officers' table."

"It was a table of honor because I was with the Greek Minister, M. Romanos, whose personal Francophile sentiments and belief in a French victory, which must mean a Balkan victory, are a subject of no possible doubt."

"Flowers On The Table"
"Ah," he exclaimed in amazement, "flowers on the table!"

"All along the white linen the soldiers, to receive a distinguished visitor, had scattered flowers from the gardens and fields of Verdun."

"I shall never forget his accent as he said those words 'Flowers on the table!'"

"Ah, boches! Nothing that counts, nothing that is of use, has changed in Verdun through your bombardment. You demolish houses of civilians. They have all departed and the value of their property, the expenses of their exile, will be added to your bill. As for the citadel, the gates and ramparts, they are intact. None of the means of defense of this stronghold which you vowed you would enter in four days has been changed by that colossal effort in which you have been destroying yourselves in the past forty-five days. The citadel breathes at ease, more full of life than at any time. Bread is baked there and electric light in production officers fill up their unending reports there, so that your shells have not even disturbed France's red tape!"

Appalling Artillery Duel
"An hour later as we were in the open country again and watched the appalling artillery duel which seemed as if it would reduce the very earth to powder, some one said, 'To enter Verdun they will have to batter the hills level!' But the insurmountable obstacle lies less in the hills than in the firmness of soul of its defenders."

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MORE FUNDS NEEDED FOR GREAT BRITAIN

Premier Asquith Calls For Another Loan of 300,000,000 Pounds Sterling

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) LONDON, May 23.—Premier Asquith gave notice today of another huge credit for the purpose of raising war funds. In moving a vote of 300,000,000 pounds sterling in the house of commons, the premier commented that this is the eleventh similar vote since the war started, and that the grand total now reaches 3,382,000,000 pounds sterling.

Premier Asquith said that the expenditure of the British government from April 1 to May 20 maintained a daily average of 4,820,000 pounds sterling, highest rate reached by Great Britain during the war.

Winston Churchill, debating Asquith's motion, said that it is unwise to expect the war to turn suddenly and decisively in favor of the Allies, inasmuch as the contending armies are far too evenly matched.

"Mr. Asquith has said that the total military effort of Great Britain has produced 5,000,000 men. Where are they?" Churchill asked. He urged that every serviceable man should be put in to strengthen the fighting line.

SENATE STANDS FIRM AGAINST WILSON MAN

Refuses To Reconsider Its Vote Against George Rublee

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) WASHINGTON, May 24.—The refusal of the senate to confirm the nomination of George Rublee as a member of the federal trade commission was made final yesterday when a vote to reconsider the refusal was lost on a tie the vote standing thirty-eight to thirty-eight.

Rublee was given a recess appointment more than a year ago and has been carrying out his work as a commissioner at a salary of \$10,000 a year.

When his nomination was sent to the senate, objection was made by Senator Gallinger, of New Hampshire, from which state Rublee was an appointee. The senator announcing that the nominee was personally obnoxious to him.

NANKING LOYALISTS PLAN TO KEEP YUAN

They Would Await Election of Successor By Parliament

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) PEKING, May 23.—A conference of loyal republicans held in Nanking, consisting of one delegate from each of the loyal provinces, has decided that President Yuan Shih-kai shall remain in office until an elected Parliament shall choose his successor.

The province of Shen-si has declared independence.

A Japanese firm has loaned China 3,000,000 yen on security of iron mines in Hunan province.

CHINESE LEADER IS SLAIN

(Special Cablegram to Nippon Jiji.) TOKIO, May 23.—A report from Canton states that Chen Chung Ming, one of the noted leaders of the revolution, has been assassinated in that city by Yuan Shih-kai henchmen. This is the second assassination that is laid at the door of Yuan.

YUAN CABINET RESIGNS

(Special Cablegram to Liberty Bell.) TOKIO, May 23.—Yuan Shih-kai's cabinet has resigned. Yesterday afternoon every member announced officially that they would not remain in office longer, and Yuan is now seeking for a leader to form a new cabinet.

ASK SKIPPERS TO KEEP LOOK OUT FOR SEIKO MARU

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) SAN FRANCISCO, May 24.—The Japanese consulate has issued a request to all skippers sailing from this port to keep a look out for the Japanese freighter Seiko Maru, which sailed from Seattle for Yokohama on March 22 and is long overdue. She was reported passing Tatooch on her way out and has not since been sighted. The Seiko Maru carries no passengers, but has a full crew and a valuable cargo. She has not yet been told for at Lloyd's, but rates for her reinsurance have gone up to seventy-five per cent.

NAVAL PREPAREDNESS BILL MAY PASS HOUSE JUNE 3

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) WASHINGTON, May 23.—The second one of the administration's "preparedness" measures, the naval appropriation bill, will pass the house by June 3, Chairman Kitchin of the ways and means committee asserted today. Night sessions of the house will be held next week.

NORSE STEAMER TORPEDOED

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) PARIS, May 23.—The Norwegian steamer Tjome has been sunk by an Austrian submarine near the island of Majorca without casualties.

Germany Will Conserve Foodstuffs Supply of Meat and Butter Scanty

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) BERLIN, May 24.—Germany has an adequate supply of food to afford nourishment to the population whatever may be the duration of the war, but national necessity requires that the supply be handled and distributed by the government alone. The food supply will be largely vegetarian from now on.

Such is the statement made yesterday by the North German Gazette in announcing the creation of a food dictatorship and the plans under which the food supply of the nation will be handled.

Due to the short crop of 1915 and the reduction of imports, the meat supply has decreased and vegetables will have to be used to a larger extent hereafter than in the past. There is plenty of bread and potatoes, but meat is scarce and butter is practically gone.

The Stuttgart city council, when the details of the plans of the food dictatorship were announced, entered a prompt protest to the introduction of the plan and to the form the distribution is to take.

ANOTHER BIG WAR LOAN

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) COPENHAGEN, May 24.—Despatches from Berlin say that the Vossische Zeitung has announced that the government is preparing to introduce a bill early in June providing for another war loan of ten billion marks.

Mexicans Will Hunt Villa Outlaws Big Force Is Sent Into Chihuahua

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) WASHINGTON, May 24.—Despatches to the state department from the border last night, announced that General Obregon, the Carranza commander, has ordered 30,000 troops to hunt down the bandits in Chihuahua and in the Big Bend country.

It is understood that the troops already have started on their march to the new posts assigned to them by these orders, and that the task of exterminating the outlaws infesting the border states will be begun at once.

In a statement yesterday Secretary of War Baker denied that the war department had issued orders to Colonel Sibley to withdraw his command from Mexico, and added that he believes the move was made because Sibley and Major Langhorne had lost the trail of the bandits who had raided Glenn Springs, Decmora and Boquilla, and consequently were compelled to come back.

The state department waited yesterday in vain for the new note from General Carranza. Something apparently delayed its transmission.

Cox Rangers have shot and killed Col. Louis Morin, who was charged with leading a plot to organize an uprising of Mexicans in Texas, and Victoriano Ponce, accused of having been one of a band of train-wreckers, when they attempted to escape.

Telegraph reports from El Paso say that complaint has been made by the mayor of the Mexican town of Asencion, Chihuahua, against American troops which have operated around the town. In a communication to General Gavia, Carranza commander at Juarez, the mayor says that the troops committed depredations, built fortifications and occupied Mexican property.

He asserted that General Pershing's men were coming to Asencion in violation of the agreement that the American troops would be kept out of towns, and that their attitude was hostile to the Carranzistas.

COURT-MARTIAL FOR TEXAS MILITIAMEN

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) WASHINGTON, May 24.—The war department has under consideration the matter of ordering the trial by court-martial of one hundred and sixteen members of the National Guard of Texas, who refused to be amongst those guardsmen mustered into the federal service on the call of the President.

Whether this or any other action will be taken has not yet been determined. The question came up on the floor of the house yesterday, when Representative Snyder of Texas demanded the guardsmen.

"Under three per cent of the total enlistment of the Texas national guard failed to obey promptly the summons of the President to duty," said the Texan.

"It must be remembered that many of the Texas national guardsmen are working men, with families to support and other personal affairs to prevent an immediate response to an unexpected summons."

HOUSE REFUSES VOTES TO PORTO RICAN WOMEN

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) WASHINGTON, May 23.—By a vote of eighty to fifty-nine the house today eliminated the amendment designed to grant suffrage to the women of Porto Rico. The amendment, proposed by Congressman Mann, was approved yesterday but the house today decided to pass the Porto Rico bill virtually as introduced, which was done without roll-call.

AMERICAN STEAMER SAVES VICTIMS OF SUBMARINE

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) LONDON, May 24.—Captain Cooke of the American steamer Camino, has reported by wireless to the American consulate here that he has picked up at sea the officers and crew of the British steamer Ross, which had been sunk by a German submarine on April 25. The Camino is on her way from Havre to New York. The British sailors had been at sea in their small boats for nearly a month before they were rescued.

PROTEST AGAINST MAIL INTERFERENCE COMPLETED

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) WASHINGTON, May 23.—President Wilson today sent to Secretary of State Lansing the completed draft of the new note to Great Britain, in protest of the interference with mails to and from the United States. It is understood that the note in duplicate form will be sent to France.

THOUSANDS OF SYRIANS HAVE DIED FROM HUNGER

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) NEW YORK, May 24.—Eighty thousand men, women and children have died of hunger in the famine that is prevalent all over Syria, according to despatches from Lebanon to this city, via Cairo.

GARMENT MAKERS ON STRIKE

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) BOSTON, May 24.—Four thousand garment makers, the employees of two garment shops, walked out on strike yesterday. They demand an eight hour day and increased pay.

PLAN TO MOBILIZE NATION'S STRENGTH

Hay Would Create National Council, Without Pay, To Begin Task

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) WASHINGTON, May 24.—Representative Hay has introduced a bill creating a national council to mobilize the industrial resources of the nation, for use in the event of war.

The council, as specified in the measure, is to consist of seven cabinet members, who are empowered to nominate an advisory commission of seven experts in industrial organization.

The duties of this advisory commission will be to prepare recommendations as to the location of railroads in reference to the mobilization of troops and the handling of the resources of the country for military purposes; to make recommendations for steps to be taken to increase the production in American manufacturing of materials essential to the carrying out of a military campaign.

The commission and the advisory commission members are to serve without pay, no salaries being provided for in the Hay measure.

Honolulu Men Were Drowned With Roanoke

William Mitchell and William J. Holland Lose Lives; D. C. Mitchell Escapes

Two former Honoluluans perished in the steamer Roanoke, lost off California week before last. They were William Mitchell and William J. Holland. Their names were in lists received by mail yesterday morning.

D. C. Mitchell, first assistant engineer of the Roanoke, lost at sea off California week before last, had laid off, and was not in her when she sank. He is a Honoluluian. His father, deceased, was master of the Inter-Island steamer Kalanui.

Two Relatives Drowned
But if Mr. Mitchell escaped, his brother and brother-in-law were lost. William Mitchell, younger brother, not so well known here as the older, was another in the Roanoke. He was born in Honolulu. William J. Holland, second assistant engineer, whose parents resided here ten years ago, was lost. D. C. Mitchell married Mr. Holland's sister.

Men familiar with shipping conditions in San Francisco declare that the Roanoke left San Francisco in a condition that, under normal conditions, she could make the Golden Gate without turning over. They base their belief on the fact that the loading of the boat was done by inexperienced stevedores and that she was listed to port badly as she left the pier. It is maintained by shippers along the water front that the gasoline and explosives should have been loaded first and the general cargo last. This would have allowed the heavier part of the cargo to go into the hold, but would have caused additional expense in the loading as all of the cargo would have had to be loaded in midstream from lighters.

Cargo Insured For \$425,000
The investigation into the sinking of the ship is in the hands of Inspectors of Hulls and Boilers James Guthrie and Joseph P. Dolan.

The following report, which would seem to substantiate the faulty loading theory, was received by Collector of Customs J. O. Davis of San Francisco from Don Br. Jack, deputy collector at Port San Luis.

"Cargo of Roanoke shifted by heavy seas, causing list. Forward hold filled with water. Vessel failed to right and continued sinking. Captain ordered all hands to boats. Four boats were launched successfully; others swamped. Boat rescued here was manned by eight, five dead and three living. No will survive. Master and wife reported by survivors to be lost."

"Launches and men on shore patrolling coast north and south. Ship launching patrolled without results."

The cargo of the Roanoke was insured for \$425,000 and the hull for \$60,000. The insurance was placed in New York, San Francisco and London.

The Roanoke, owned by the North Pacific Steamship Company, was making her second trip to the west coast under charter to the California South Sea Navigation Company. She carried a total of about 2300 tons, including 600 tons of dynamite, the largest individual shipment of this kind to leave San Francisco.

Although the powder was stored in the starboard and saloons after the holds had been filled, there was no explosion when the vessel turned turtle.

Charles P. Doe, president of the North Pacific Steamship Company, declared that extra precautions were taken in loading the Roanoke on account of the nature of the freight. According to the company valued the steamer at \$300,000, as the sum had been offered for long ago for the vessel. Before leaving on her last trip the Roanoke was placed on drydock and after a close examination was found to be in perfect condition.

In Pacific Trade
The Roanoke has been on the Pacific Coast for many years, having operated on the Alaska run for the North American Trading and Transportation Company during the gold rush. She was later purchased by the North Pacific and used in the trade along the coast.

CAPTAIN OF POLICE FINED AND SUSPENDED

Sam Kailiwal, captain of police in Kaneohe, has been fined five dollars and suspended for one month for beating up a fellow-citizen last Saturday night while the officer was badly under the influence of liquor. Kailiwal has been reported as drinking a great deal of late and his spree culminated in the case for which he was fined in the Kaneohe court.

AN IMPROVED QUININE DOES NOT AFFECT THE HEAD

Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE will be found better than ordinary Quinine. Does not cause nervousness, nor ringing in the head. Remember, there is only one "Bromo Quinine." The signature of R. W. Grove is on each bottle.

ROME ADMITS BIG REVERSE AND LOSS OF YEAR'S WORK

Italians Have Yielded Roverto and Sugano Valleys To Austrians, Being Forced To Fall Back Between Astico and Brenta Rivers

RETREAT CONDUCTED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY

New Lines of Latins Conform To Boundary For Most Part and Reinforcements Arrive To Help the Troops Sustain Positions

ROME ADMITS BIG REVERSE AND LOSS OF YEAR'S WORK

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) LONDON, May 24.—On the anniversary of Italy's entrance into the war, which was celebrated throughout that country yesterday, Rome was compelled to admit having suffered the most severe defeat of the year of fighting. Rome announced that the Italians on the lines from Roverto to Sugano Valley, have been withdrawn to the main lines of defense, and in an official statement admits that the Italians have also been forced to fall back between the Astico and Brenta rivers.

The retreat, says the communiqué, was conducted in perfect order, the Latin troops moving slowly and carrying with them most of their supplies and heavy cannon. Those guns that were left behind were put beyond the possibility of repair, and the supplies were burned before being abandoned.

Bulgars Are With Austrians
Despatches from Rome received here last night announced that the Italians fighting on the Isonzo front have captured numbers of Bulgars, showing that the Bulgarians have been sending reinforcements to the Austrians operating on that front, in the present offensive.

Other communications say that the Austrian advance has been definitely checked in the whole Isonzo region, after some of the heaviest fighting of the war.

Military experts in Paris agreed last night, when the Roman official statements were issued, that the Italians were compelled to fall back before the first onslaught of the Austrians, and the shock of locally superior forces, but that the Latin lines are now reforming and with the aid of heavy reinforcements which have been rushed to the support of the positions, are holding firm.

Gains of Year Are Lost
The advance made at the outset of the Italian attacks last year, appears to have been lost, and the new Italian lines are believed to conform to the line of the border for the most part. The Austrian offensive, it is declared in the French capital, was directed against the redoubts and forts defending the positions in the vicinity of Vicenza, and was made in an effort to separate the Italians operating against Trieste and those who have been engaged in attacking the Austrian lines in the Trentino.

Berlin despatches, based apparently upon reports from Austrian sources, declared last night that the Italian forces of Franz Josef are still advancing, driving the Italians back so steadily that some of the outer forts protecting the stronghold of Asiolo are said to be in danger. In the Sugano valley, say these same despatches, the Austrian offensive had been successful.

BRYAN LIKELY TO HEAD 'DRY' TICKET

'Peerless One' May Be Candidate For Fourth Time

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) CHICAGO, May 24.—William Jennings Bryan may yet be a presidential candidate for the fourth time, the leaders of the Prohibition party in conference here having discussed the likelihood of securing the Commomons consent to becoming the party's candidate for the White House, in the event of the Democratic party refusing to include a plank for national prohibition in the platform to be adopted at St. Louis.

If the Democrats take up the cause of prohibition as a national issue, the Prohibitionists will probably endorse the Democratic nominee.

If the Democrats fail, the Prohibitionists will again enter a presidential candidate, and if Bryan will accept the nomination, he will head the "dry" ticket.

SHIP AND STEAMER ARE SUNK IN MEDITERRANEAN

(Associated Press by Federal Wireles.) LONDON, May 23.—A despatch to Lloyd's agency says that the Italian sailing ship Fabricotti has been sunk in the Mediterranean and that a British steamer, the Rhosus, has been sunk by a mine, with seven persons killed.